
Jane Austen

Stolz und Vorurteil



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Description

"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife."

So begins *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen's witty comedy of manners--one of the most popular novels of all time--that features splendidly civilized sparring between the proud Mr. Darcy and the prejudiced Elizabeth Bennet as they play out their spirited courtship in a series of eighteenth-century drawing-room intrigues.

Insightful reviews

Stephen: 6.0 stars. Confession...this book gave me an **earth-shattering Jane Austen gasp** and I am feeling a bit spent and vulnerable at the moment, so please bear with me. You see, I decided I wanted to get more literated by reading the "classicals" in between my steady flow of science fiction, mystery and horror. The question was where to begin.

After sherlocking through my Easton Press collection, I started by pulling out my Dickens and reading [A Tale of Two Cities](#) which I thought was jaw-dropping AMAZO and left me feeling warm, satisfied and content. It also made me retrospectively pleased that I named my youngest daughter *Sydney*.

After Two City "Tale"ing, I decided to give this book a whirl as I kept seeing it on GR lists of "greatest books ever." However, I must admit I was hesitant going in to this for two big reasons. One, I thought it might be a bit too romantic for me. The second, and much more distressing, reason was that [Twilight](#) was on many of the same lists as this book. Austen fans should pull a nutty over that one.

So needless to say I went into this thinking I might hate it. Well, for the 999,987th time in my life (at least according to my wife's records)...I was wrong!!! I absolutely loved this book and had a mammoth, raging heart-on for it from the opening scene at the breakfast table when Father Witty (Mr. Bennet) is giving sly sarcasm to Mrs. Mommie Put Upon. I literaphorically could not get enough of this story. I was instantly captivated by the characters and Elizabeth Bennet, the main protagonist, immediately became one of my all time favorite characters. Mr. Darcy joined that party as soon as he showed up in the narrative as I thought he was terrific as well.

Overall, the writing could not have been better. It was descriptive, lush and brilliant. The story could not have been more engaging or intelligent and the characters could not have been more magnificentastic. Elizabeth and Fitz are both smart, witty, self-confident and good. Austen could not have written them better. Oh, and I am sorry if this is a bit of a minor spoiler but I need to add that George Wickham is a cock-blocking braggadouche of startling proportions. I needed to say that and now I feel better.

This one has made it onto my list of **All Time Favorite** novels and is truly one of the classics that lives up to its billing. **A FINAL WORD TO THE GUYS:**...Guys, do not fear the Austen...embrace

the Austen...HIGHEST POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION!!!

karen: it is official: now everyone on the planet has read this book. i was the last holdout, and being the last person (excluding those who are just being born..... now) i am sorry i didnt like it more. i knew going into it that i was not a jane austen girl; i had read two others and thought them bloodless and mercantile. but everyone said to me, "well, you havent read pride and prejudice is why you dont like her." which i thought might be valid. but its not. because i still dont care. this is not the greatest love story of all time. its more like the most amiable alliance of compatible feelings that ends up in a mutually agreeable union and merging of fortunes and temperaments. i mean, really. this book needs heathcliff to come barrelling in on a stallion all wet from the moors to ravish all five of these daughters and show them what a real man is all about. now theres a love story...

Peter Meredith: 18 chapters in... I want that to sink in for a moment... ok. 18 chapters in and NOTHING has happened. I am enjoying her writing style very much, but I also enjoy the back of an occasional cereal box so that may not mean much. We will see.

I am sitting here eating a tootsie roll, a Halloween left over, and I can't help notice the similarities between it and the novel *Pride and Prejudice*. First off, like P and P, the tootsie roll wasn't one of those dinky ones that you can almost swallow in a single bite so you know that I've been at this for a while and now that I finally got it down, I have to wonder why I put it into mouth to begin with. Secondly, tootsie rolls are a throwback to another age, there are far better candies out there and the 36 wrappers littering the floor will attest to this. You have to really like tootsie rolls to appreciate them. I don't.

Pride and Prejudice is the dullest most wonderfully written book that I have ever read. I read it simply to get a feel for the author's fantastic ability at arranging words, and really I mean it when I say, oh what wonderful blather.

I give the book one star.

After 62 chapters, there is nothing that happens. There is barely a story to the story, at least not one that could be remotely interesting...even to people who like romance. In the age of bodices, there is nary a one that is ripped open, let alone one that is undone with the gentle exploring fingers of a lover.

And then there is the hubbub over the book...Satirical? A witty comedy of manners? Sure, I smiled a few times at the only funny character in the book, Mr. Bennett, but overall, I read, studied the sentence structure, noticed the wall paper and waited patiently as the paint dried. Even the dramatic ending where Lizzy gets the guy, is a letdown and dull. Just to let you know, I was joking about it being in any way dramatic. Which brings me to the characters. Other than Lizzy, they are all stereotypical and lack even the most remote concept of depth. Jane is pretty and sweet from the first page to the last. The mom is overbearing, the dad aloof. Other than Darcy, no one grows or changes in a book that spans a few years and endless pages.

Normally, I use one star for books that I just can't finish and if I wasn't an aspiring author, I wouldn't have bothered to get through half the book, but since I did... and when I compare it to yawner like *A Tale of Two Cities*, I had to bump this one up a notch.

PS, Don't read *Moby Dick* either, if you know what's good for you.

Steve: it's a fact universally acknowledged, that an writer owning monstrous expertise and an outstanding tale to tell, has to be in wish of a reader like me to bestow upon it the laurels it

merits. How else will someone listen of it? OK, so P&P won't want my help. The be aware is probably going already out. What that implies is that i will be able to scurry round the outer edge of the tale itself, make a couple of small points, and flow on with close to certitude that pass over Austen may have an viewers regardless. It were relatively it slow due to the fact I'd learn whatever written goodbye ago. Of course, the language was once very different, and for me that was once a part of the appeal. The musicality of it needs to owe to the baroque variety of the time in addition to to the abilities of the writer. Her phrases have been designated and descriptors well-chosen. This passage concerning the piano-playing talents of the flippantly seemed heart sister is yet one of the examples: "Mary had neither genius nor taste; and although self-importance had given her application, it had given her likewise a pedantic air and immodest manner, which might have injured the next measure of excellence than she had reached." This instance can be one of the cases the place an air or demeanour was once defined, or a countenance, bearing or nature. a lot used to be learn into facial expressions, too. Remember, this got here from a time earlier than "show, don't tell." As an older classic depiction, there have been additionally massive modifications within the social norms of the day -- the mores and the protocols. It's a cliché to show that Austen's books are approximately manners, yet it's real nonetheless. Courtships, for instance, had inflexible principles which are virtually laughable to our sleek methods of thinking. And the language was once so stylized and indirect. Subtitles may make for an outstanding skit, like in Annie corridor the place Alvy is chatting with Annie early on approximately a few summary artsy factor whereas his genuine educate of suggestion was, we could say, much less chaste. financial details, class, and relatives acceptance have been very important determinants within the fits of the day, too. Books like this supply us nice historic perception into the social contracts and conventions. There's no use for me to copy in any aspect what most folks already comprehend or may perhaps become aware of elsewhere higher than this. Elizabeth Bennet is great. Mr. Darcy emerges. Jane and Bingley are charming, even though approximately sufferers of a misunderstanding. Mr. Collins is an obsequious toad. Mr. Bennet is a piece too laissez-faire with a daughter or who wanted tighter reins. Mrs. Bennet is a girl "of susceptible figuring out and intolerant mind." (I must have been utilizing leave out Austen's wording throughout. It's in contrast to i'll enhance upon it.) Lydia is heedless and Wickham is evil. of those latter it used to be said, "how little of everlasting happiness may perhaps belong to some who have been basically introduced jointly simply because their passions have been more suitable than their virtue." the total tale is largely how those characters play off of each other and kind out their relationships and their lives. Yes, and it's informed rather well. It's greater than simply the dress drama lovers with their excessive style for romanticism that maintain this as a classic. I'll shut this hodgepodge hash of a evaluate via introducing a enjoyable new parlor video game regarding a mishmash of P&P characters. Pish posh you say? good pay attention me out. First of all, for those who haven't already performed so, learn the e-book and study the features and idiosyncrasies of the characters. they vary extensively over a number of dimensions. Then take turns mapping those characters to the opposite gamers within the game. Composites are encouraged. For instance, my gorgeous bride of 30 years is 0.872 Elizabeth for her perception, quickly wit, and probity; 0.127 Jane for her good looks and sturdy nature; and 0.001 Mrs. Bennet for having watched on multiple get together that exhibit the place bridezillas expense different bridezillas' weddings, seriously and cattily. Then glance to work out which individuals flip purple with embarrassment, or perhaps redder with anger.

Sherwood Smith: a few years again in a single of my APAs, anyone castigated Jane Austen's books like this: "All these daft twits rabbiting on approximately outfits and boyfriends and manners." Since then, I've encountered different adaptations at the topic sleek girl ought to not be studying such trash since it unites feminism again centuries. Well, a lot as I laughed over the 1st caveat, that may not Austen. It sounds extra just like the silver fork romances encouraged by means of Georgette Heyer. Austen's characters do not speak about outfits at all, open air of air-headed Mrs Allen of Northanger Abbey, who does not contemplate something else. Austen sticks her satiric quill into younger girls who imagine and speak about not anything yet beaux, equivalent to poor, luckless Anne Steele in *feel and Sensibility*. Manners are emphasised yet now not manners with out matter; Austen saves her spikiest irony for hypocrites. I imagine it's a must to do not forget that while Heyer used to be writing historic romances within the silver fork tradition, Austen was once writing novels approximately modern life, in particular the issues dealing with younger ladies in her personal stroll of life, the rustic gentry. She criticized herself in a much-quoted letter to her sister Cassandra, announcing in effect, 'the challenge with *satisfaction and Prejudice* is it truly is too mild and vivid and sparkling.' Many have misinterpreted this remark. it sort of feels to me, on shut studying of her elsewhere, that she intended the radical to be taken extra heavily than it was. What is it about, really? it is in regards to the mistaken purposes for marrying, and the way these can impact a lady for the remainder of her life. in fact a hard-line feminist can indicate that novels approximately marriage are hideously unfashionable for trendy woman, who has many selections sooner than her. in the course of Austen's time, marriage used to be the single selection a lady had, until she was once wealthy adequate to shrug off the expectancies of her society, or except she was once prepared to live to tell the tale as a pensioner to a couple friend or other, which ordinarily intended getting used as an unpaid maid. after all there has been teaching, however the salaries for girls have been so depressing one may perhaps besides were a servant. The hours and calls for have been pretty well equal. If one appears earlier the topic of marriage, the novel's concentration is set relationships: among males and women; among sisters; among friends; among kinfolk and among families. As for marriage, Austen sends up relationships that have been shaped with safety because the goal, relationships that have been sparked through actual allure and never a lot else, relationships made with an eye fixed to rank, money, social status, or competition. And, with plentiful wit and elegance (or as she'd say, with *éclat*), she deals a few truths concerning the ameliorations among love and lust, and what relationships in response to both suggest to a wedding months—or decades—after the wedding. The incontrovertible fact that Austen does not use glossy terminology does not make it any much less genuine than a latest novel that has a supposedly liberated lady romping from mattress to mattress for 40 pages whereas looking for the best relationship. The message is the same, that girls who mistake falling in lust for falling in love tend to be doomed to a really unsatisfied existence. And in Austen's time, you could not divorce, you have been caught for life. I've had committed feminist pals provide me appalled reactions whilst I admit to liking Austen. i do not reflect on examining Austen a to blame pleasure, as I do interpreting Wodehouse. I reflect on Jane Austen a forerunner of feminism. She does not stand out and hold forth as Mary Wollstonecroft did. Her impact was once however profound. many times in these novels she portrays ladies considering for themselves, picking out for themselves—even if their offerings are in the conventions of the time. What the ladies imagine matters. In Austen's day (and too often, now) girl characters have been there as prizes for the lads to possess, or to attempt for, or as catalysts for male action. nowadays we name them fridge women. Jane Austen gave her woman characters as a lot organization as a

girl can have in these days, and the narrative is usually noticeable via their eyes. The famed dating among Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy makes it very transparent that they have been first attracted by means of one another's intellect—those have been truly brain-snogging sooner than they ever acquired to the nice sheets of Pemberley. It's also transparent that the man—his better social and financial prestige notwithstanding—had to earn the woman's respect, and reconsider a few of his assumptions, ahead of she may see in him a potential partner. There's no dominant male making the decisions: these are equivalent all the way down to the final page, and Austen makes it transparent that it'll stay so after the marriage. At any time when I reread the novel, I realize whatever new, yet within the meantime, will I proceed to suggest it to younger women simply venturing into literature? You bet.

Rosianna: I am a very good believer within the concept that if someone did not like this ebook it is because they did not learn it thoroughly and/or are possessed. In all seriousness, the wit is undying and Austen must always be remembered as a literary genius, as I'm hoping she will.

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